Subject: Please contribute ideas to our budget

Dear XXXX,

We are writing to you in your capacity as leaders of YYYY. As you have heard, MIT's endowment has done well and, as part of the annual budget process, the Department want to hear from you what budgetary ideas you have. Please consult with your constituency and send us of to two ideas (maybe one big and one small one) for funds we could request from the Provost for your group. Please include a 3-4 sentence justification (we will have to edit anything longer — there is a strict page limit for our budget).

Things are happening fast: the Department got the Dean' budget request letter Tuesday and our budget is due to the Dean by the end of next Friday.

We will not be able to include everything, or even most things, in our budget. We are already requesting a large increase to cover restore the 3% cut from year before last, the flat budget of last year, add a DEI staff member, provide the Basic Computing Service across the Department, continue the mentoring program, and provide professional development services to the staff and faculty. We do want to make sure that we are not missing something exceptional, so we are reaching out to all of you for exceptional ideas. We will include with our budget a list of all ideas that we receive and a description of this process.

Please send your ideas to Christina Andujar (candujar@mit.edu) and the Physics Values Committee (physics-values.mit.edu) by noon Monday. We will ask for PVCs input by Wednesday and our budget is due in to

the Dean by Friday. After that, we have a budget meeting with the Dean in mid-November, prior to the School of Science Budget (which includes our budget) going to the Provost. We will get our FY2022 budget sometime in March and we will share the outcome with the Community at that time.

We do not have a good sense of what will happen in the budget process. The endowment performance was very strong, but MIT will take out about 30% of the increased returns rather than the full 55%. MIT also has large needs for infrastructure improvements and the new College of Computing and MIT has committed to a 3% raise for everyone starting December 1st. The Provost could approve all, some, or none of your requests or he may just increase our budget by some amount and leave us to decide or something in

between. We will let you know.

This scenario is unprecedented in our time at MIT and discombobulating coming after two years of national and global turmoil. We feel great gratitude for have this problem, rather than the alternatives.

Sincerely,

Peter & Matt